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Quick Starter

DOMINOES

The First Flying Man

Elspeth Rawstron

DOMINOES

The First Flying Man



QUICK STARTER 250 HEADWORDS

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The First Flying Man

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DOMINOES

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The First Flying Man

Elspeth Rawstron

Illustrated by Gianluca Garofalo and Matteo Vatani

Elspeth Rawstron studied Drama and English Literature at university and then worked for *The Stage* newspaper in London. She later trained to teach English and moved to Istanbul. She loves books, theatre, art, history, and travel, and she reads a lot in her free time. She can see the Bosphorus and the Galata Tower from her living room window and often wonders about Hezarfen's flight. There is a short account of the flight in a book of travels by the 17th-century Turkish writer Evliya Çelebi.

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Story Characters



Hezarfen Ahmet Çelebi



Mehmet



Ali



Lagari Hasan



*The District Chief
of Galata*



Sultan Murat IV



The Sultan's vizier

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ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

1 This story happens in Istanbul in the 1630s. Which things do you read about in it? What do you think? Tick the boxes.



a one of the earliest rockets



b a Turkish plane



c Ottoman Sultan Murat IV



d the Galata Tower



e a Galatasaray footballer



f the airport in Istanbul

2 Which things happen in the story? What do you think? Tick the boxes.

- a Hezарfen gets a broken leg when he is learning to fly.
- b Hezарfen meets and talks with Leonardo da Vinci.
- c Hezарfen flies across the Bosphorus.
- d The Sultan is happy and gives money to Hezарfen.
- e The Sultan is afraid and wants to kill Hezарfen.
- f Hezарfen must leave Istanbul in the end.

Chapter 1 – A young man's dream

My story begins in the 1630s. It is the time of the Ottoman **Empire**. **Hezarfen Ahmet Çelebi** is a **clever** young man of those days. He lives in the **district** of Üsküdar, in Istanbul.

Every morning, Hezarfen sits near the Bosphorus **strait**. He looks at the tall **tower** in the district of Galata across the water. The Galata Tower is taller than all the buildings near it.

empire a number of countries that one country controls

Hezarfen Ahmet Çelebi /'hezarfen, 'Ahmet, 'tselebi/

clever quick-thinking

district part of a big town or city

strait a long thin line of sea water between two pieces of land

tower a very tall thin building





tasty good to eat

ring something round with nothing in the middle

dream to think about something that you want to happen; when you think about something that you want to happen

fly to move through the air

bird an animal that can fly through the sky

‘Simit! Would you like a simit?’ a man near Hezarfen calls. He has some **tasty** Turkish bread **rings** on his head. But Hezarfen doesn’t answer.

Every morning the man cries, ‘Would you like a simit?’ But Hezarfen never answers.

He doesn’t hear or see the man. He is **dreaming**. In his dream, he is **flying** over the Bosphorus with the sea **birds**.

‘One day I want to look down from the sky on Istanbul,’ he thinks. ‘I want to fly across the strait with you birds. But how?’

ACTIVITIES

READING CHECK

These sentences are all false. Correct them.

1630s

- a The story happens in the ~~1830s~~.
- b It is the time of the British Empire.
- c Hezарfen is a clever old man.
- d The Galata Tower is across the road from his house.
- e Every morning, Hezарfen watches the sun in the sky.
- f Every night, the simit man comes with some simits.
- g Hezарfen always speaks to the man.
- h Hezарfen wants to fly over the Galata Tower.



GUESS WHAT

What does Hezарfen do in the next chapter? Tick two boxes.



- a He makes one of the earliest planes.



- b He looks at some pictures of birds by Leonardo.



- c He meets his brother, Lagari Hasan.



- d He meets his friends, Mehmet and Ali.

Chapter 2 – Drawings from Italy

Weeks later, Hezарfen is near the Bosphorus again. Again he is looking carefully up at the sea birds in the sky. These days he is making some big **wings** in his **workshop**. He needs some help with the **design**.

‘Hezарfen!’ someone calls. Hezарfen sees his friend, Mehmet, with a second man. He goes over and says hello to the two of them.

‘Hezарfen, this is my brother Ali,’ Mehmet says. ‘He’s got some **drawings** for you from Italy.’

‘They’re old drawings of birds’ wings by Leonardo da Vinci,’ Ali says.

‘Ah, yes. I know Leonardo’s work,’ Hezарfen says. ‘Let’s see them, then.’

Ali gives the drawings to Hezарfen. He looks at them for a minute.

‘Interesting,’ Hezарfen says. Then he gives them back. ‘Thank you, Ali!’

wing a bird flies with two of these

workshop a room where you do work with your hands

design this shows the shape of something in a picture before you make it

drawing a picture



Days later, in Hezarfen's workshop ...

'My wings are ready,' Hezarfen tells his friends.

'Let's see you fly, then,' Mehmet cries.

'Your brother Lagari wants to fly too, I hear,' Ali says. 'Everyone in Istanbul knows that.'

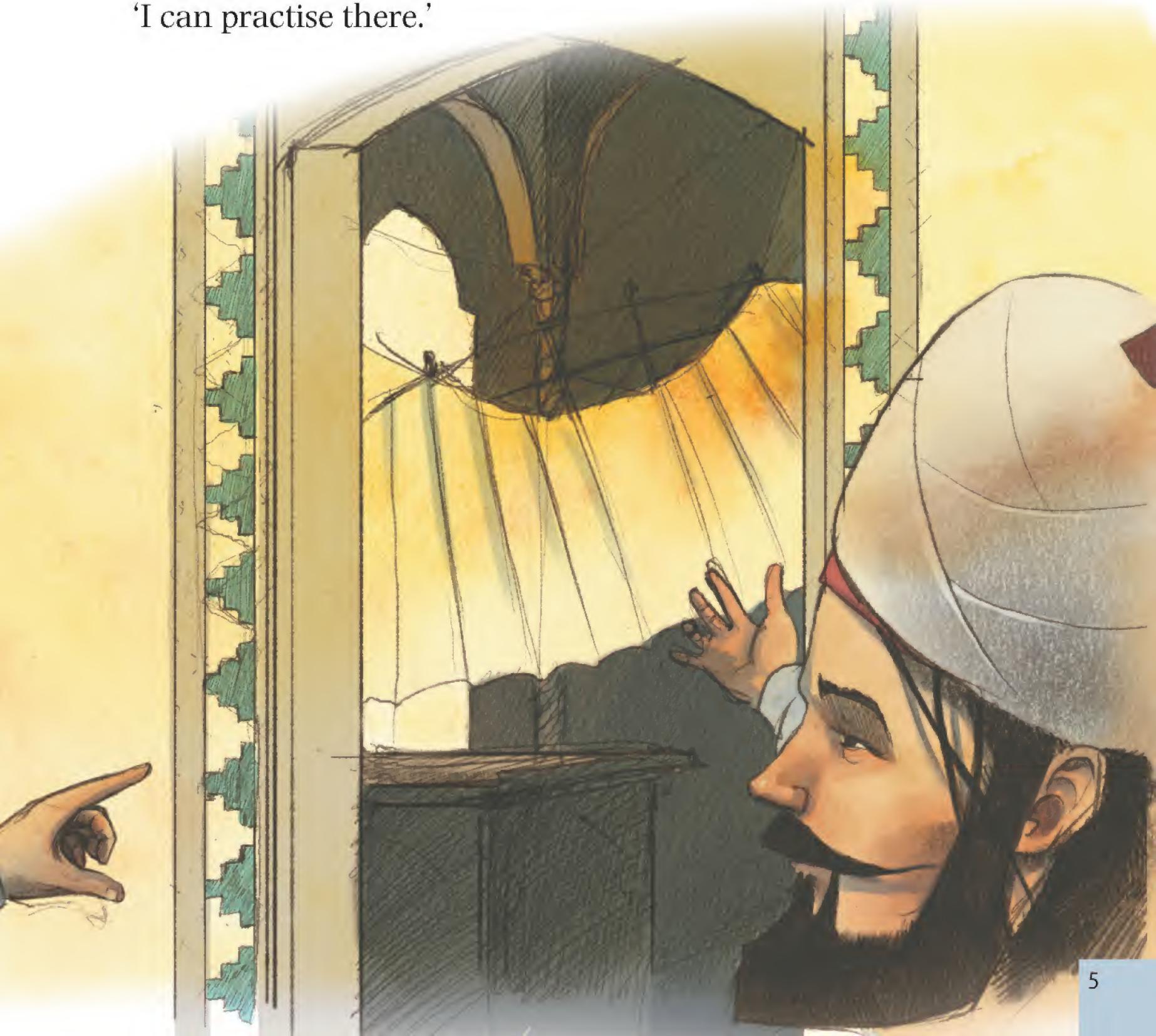
'Yes. Everybody's talking about him these days, I hear. But he isn't interested in wings. He wants to make a **rocket**,' Hezarfen answers.

'So where do you want to **practise**?' Mehmet asks.

'There's a hill not far from here,' Hezarfen says. 'I can practise there.'

rocket a long thin air ship that can fly quickly up into the sky

practise to do something many times so that you can do it well



Hezarfen and Mehmet go up to the **top** of the hill. Ali waits at the foot of it. Mehmet helps Hezarfen with his wings. Then he looks down. 'Hey! Don't **jump** from here,' he says. 'It's **dangerous**.'

top the tallest part of something

jump to move quickly on your feet from one thing to a different thing, or into the air

dangerous that can kill you

'But I must,' Hezarfen says. 'My brother's beginning work on his rocket now. But I want to fly first!' Then he runs and jumps. Mehmet closes his eyes.



READING CHECK

Choose the correct words to complete these sentences.

- a Hezarfen is making *little* / *big* wings in his workshop.
- b Mehmet is Hezarfen's *brother* / *friend*.
- c Ali is Mehmet's *father* / *brother*.
- d Ali gives pictures by *Michelangelo* / *Leonardo* to Hezarfen.
- e Hezarfen's brother wants to make a *rocket* / *plane*.
- f Hezarfen and his friends go and practise on a *hill* / *tree*.
- g It is *easy* / *dangerous* to jump from there, Mehmet thinks.

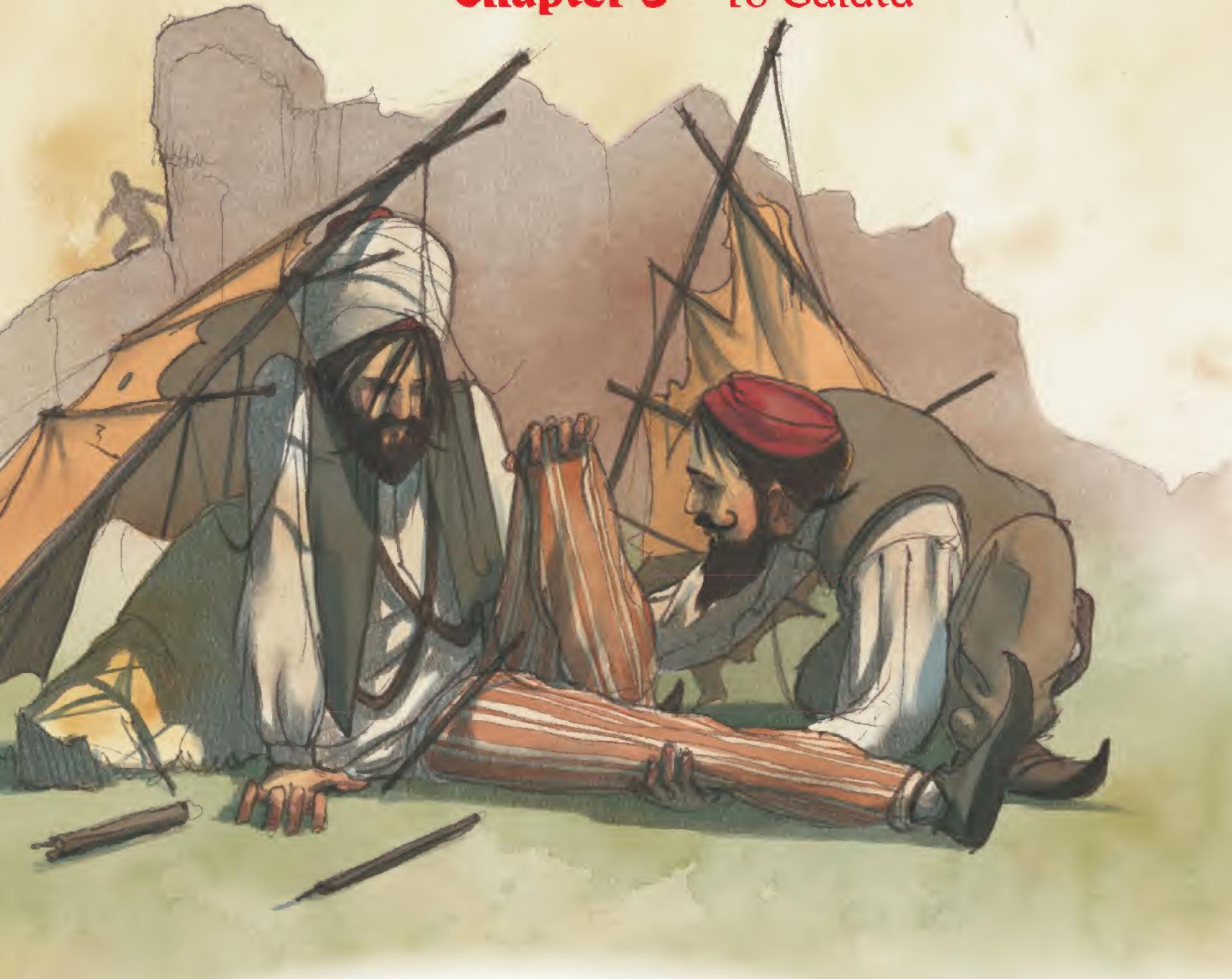


GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick the boxes.

	Yes	No
a Hezarfen flies from the hill.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b He doesn't go very far.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c He and his friends take the wings to his workshop.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d Hezarfen must make better wings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e He flies up to the sun with his new wings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f He falls down into the Bosphorus and nearly dies there.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g He and his friends go across the Bosphorus to Galata.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Chapter 3 – To Galata



Hezarfen doesn't fly.

He **falls**. Mehmet hears a big **crash** and a cry from the foot of the hill.

He goes quickly down the hill to his friend. Hezarfen is lying under his wings. Ali is next to him.

'His leg's **broken**,' Ali says.

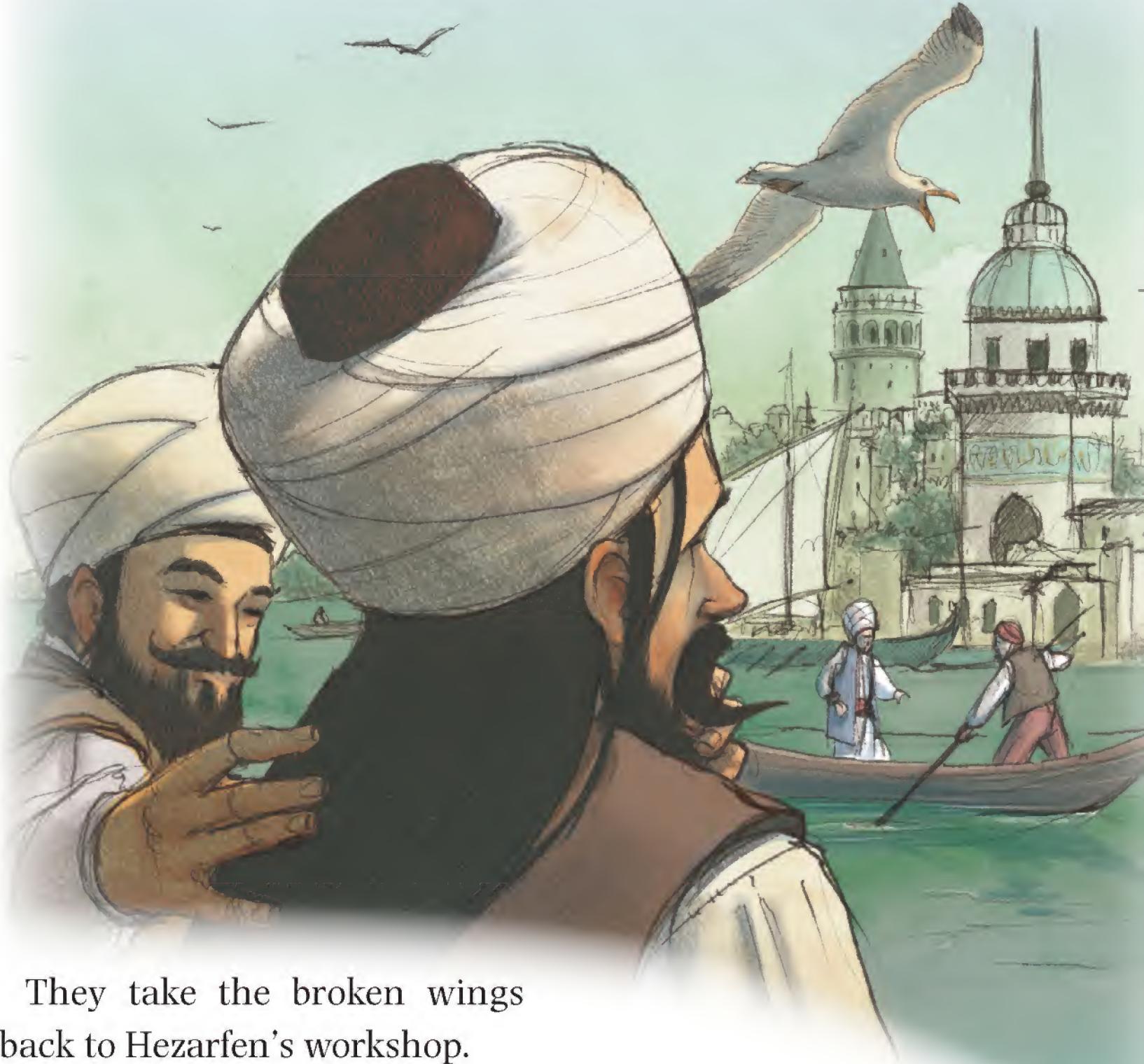
'No, it isn't,' Hezarfen answers. 'My wings are broken. But I'm OK!'

'This time,' Mehmet cries. 'But what about next time? Be careful, my friend. You don't want to die.'

fall to go down quickly

crash a big noise that you make when you hit something and stop suddenly

broken in pieces or not working



They take the broken wings
back to Hezарfen's workshop.

'Now what?' Ali asks.
'I understand more. The design of my wings needs
to be different – bigger and better. But that can wait,'
Hezарfen says. 'Right now I must go and see the
District **Chief** of Galata.'

'Galata!' Mehmet cries. 'Why?'
'I want to fly from the Galata Tower. So I need his
permission for that.'

'Forget it! The district chief never asks people into
his office!' Ali says.

'Let's see,' Hezарfen cries. 'Come on!' And he and his
friends take a **boat** across the Bosphorus.

chief the most
important man in
a place

permission
when you say that
somebody can do
something

boat you go
across water in this

guard someone who stops people from going into a building

The three friends walk from the Bosphorus up to the Galata Tower. Two tall **guards** stop them when they arrive. 'What do you want?' one of them asks.

'We want to see the District Chief of Galata,' Hezarfen answers. Ali and Mehmet are afraid.

'What's your name?' the guard asks.

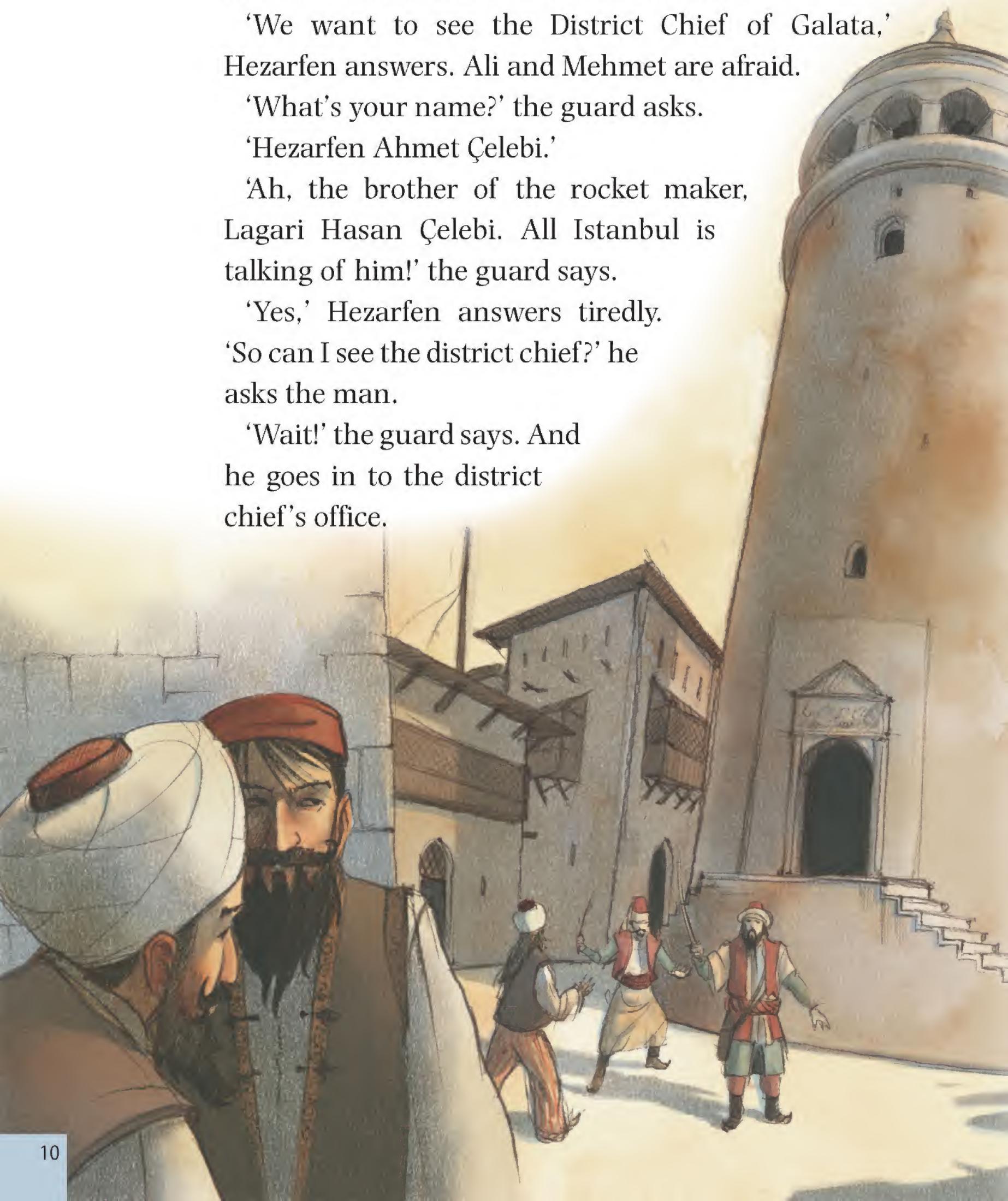
'Hezarfen Ahmet Çelebi.'

'Ah, the brother of the rocket maker, Lagari Hasan Çelebi. All Istanbul is talking of him!' the guard says.

'Yes,' Hezarfen answers tiredly.

'So can I see the district chief?' he asks the man.

'Wait!' the guard says. And he goes in to the district chief's office.



READING CHECK

Correct nine more mistakes in the story.

falls

Hezarfen ~~flies~~ down from the hill. Mehmet hears a noise and a cry from the foot of the tree. He runs down to his friend, now with Ali. Hezarfen's legs are broken, but he is OK. Hezarfen takes the wings to his workshop without his friends. He must make better wings. Hezarfen wants to fly from the Eiffel Tower. So he and his friends go across the Bosphorus to Üsküdar. Hezarfen wants to speak to the district chief there. Three guards stop them in the street. Ali and Mehmet aren't afraid. Hezarfen gives his name to the guards. One of them knows about Hezarfen's father, Lagari Hasan. Lagari is a bread maker. The guard goes and speaks to the district chief.

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick three sentences.

- a Hezarfen goes to the district chief's office.
- b Ali and Mehmet go with him.
- c Hezarfen tells the district chief his story.
- d The district chief doesn't listen to Hezarfen.
- e The district chief wants to meet Hezarfen's brother.
- f Hezarfen has a visit from his brother.



Chapter 4 – A brother's help

Some time later, the guard takes Hezарfen to the district chief's office. Mehmet and Ali wait at the door.

The district chief listens to Hezарfen's story.

'Very well,' he smiles, 'You can fly from the tower. But be careful. Don't fall and die.'

'No, District Chief,' Hezарfen answers.

'And I'd like to see your brother. Tell him.'

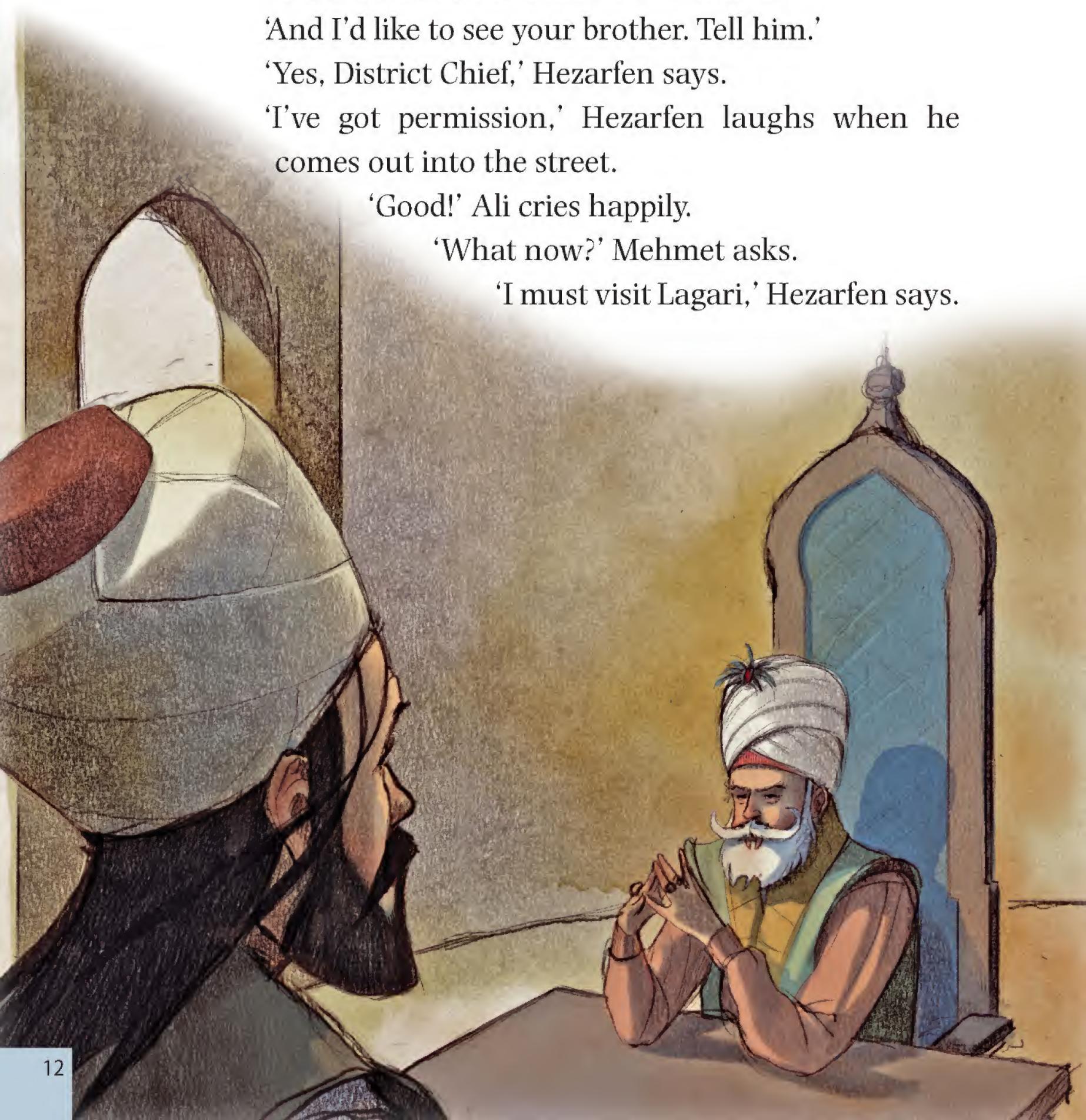
'Yes, District Chief,' Hezарfen says.

'I've got permission,' Hezарfen laughs when he comes out into the street.

'Good!' Ali cries happily.

'What now?' Mehmet asks.

'I must visit Lagari,' Hezарfen says.



So Hezарfen visits his older brother. Lagari is working on his rocket when Hezарfen arrives.

race a competition to see who is the fastest

‘Nice design,’ Hezарfen says.

‘Yes,’ Lagari answers. ‘Perhaps early next year I can fly up into the sky in it. What about you?’

‘Me, brother? I want to fly across the sky with my wings later *this* year.’

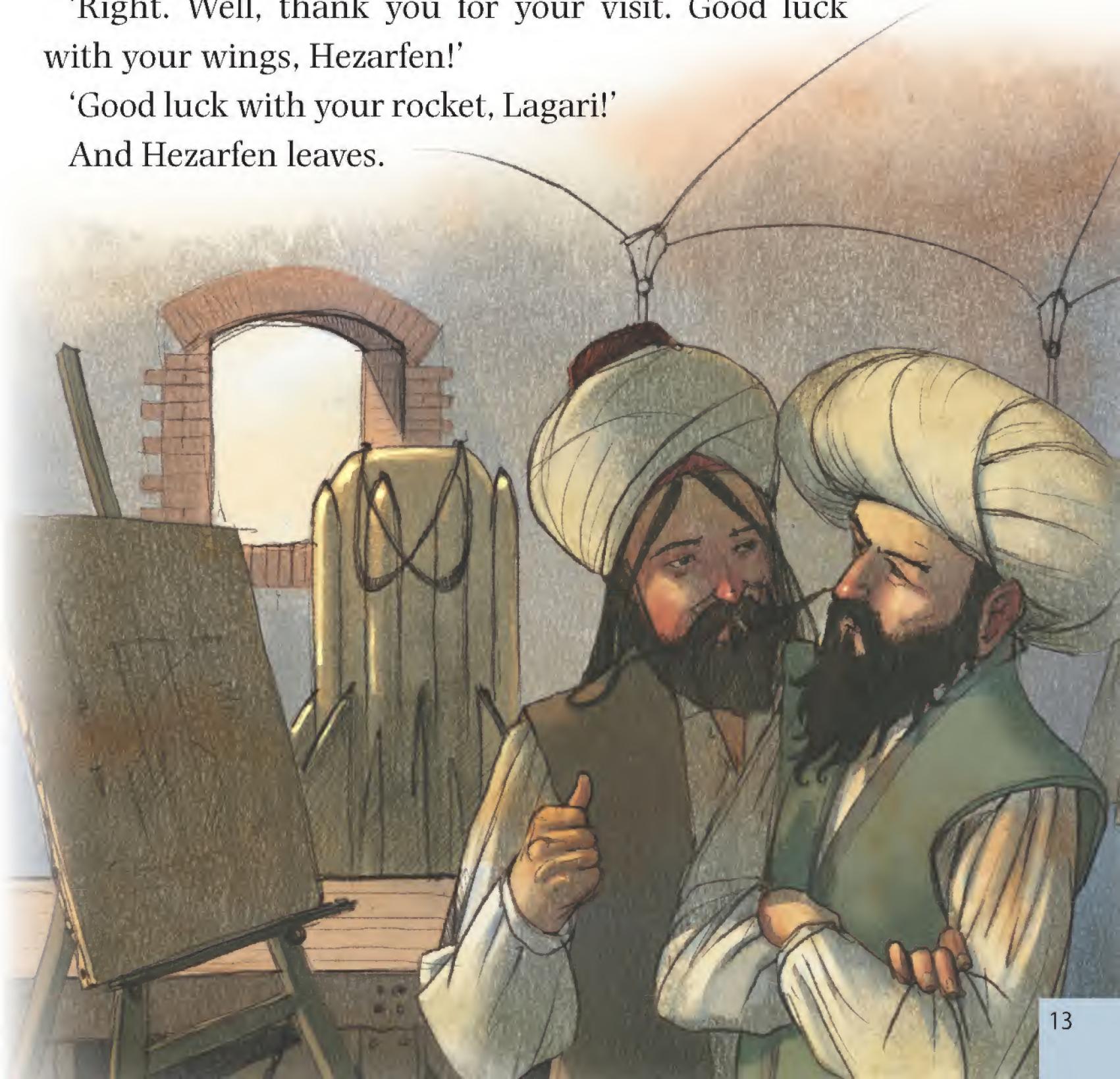
‘So it’s a **race**,’ Lagari laughs.

‘Yes,’ Hezарfen smiles. ‘But listen. The District Chief of Galata wants to see you.’

‘Right. Well, thank you for your visit. Good luck with your wings, Hezарfen!’

‘Good luck with your rocket, Lagari!’

And Hezарfen leaves.



Two weeks later, Hezarfen's new wings are ready.
‘Now I can fly from Galata to Üsküdar!’ he cries.

‘Wait! You must ask the **Sultan**’s permission for that, I think,’ Mehmet says. ‘And the Sultan says “no” to most people when they ask for things.’

‘So what can I do?’ Hezarfen cries.

‘Listen. These days the District Chief of Galata talks about your brother a lot. Now the Sultan’s interested in him, too. Perhaps Lagari can ask the Sultan for a **meeting**,’ Ali says.

So Hezarfen goes and speaks to his brother again.

‘Yes. I can ask the Sultan,’ Lagari smiles. ‘But he can always say “no” to a meeting.’

sultan a ruler in some Muslim countries

meeting when people come together to talk about something



ACTIVITIES

READING CHECK

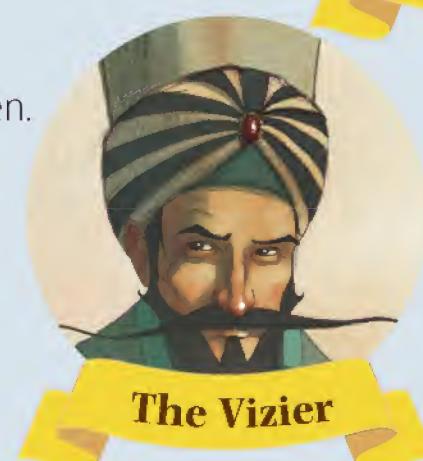
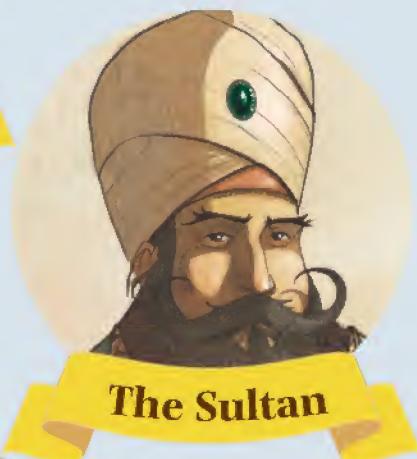
Put the sentences in order. Number them 1–10.

- a Hezарfen finishes his new wings.
- b The district chief listens to Hezарfen's story.
- c Hezарfen tells Mehmet and Ali, 'I've got permission!'
- d Lagari Hasan says, 'I can ask the Sultan for a meeting.'
- e Hezарfen tells Lagari Hasan of the district chief's interest in him.
- f The guard takes Hezарfen to the district chief's office.
- g Hezарfen says, 'Now I can fly from Galata to Üsküdar.'
- h Mehmet says, 'You must ask the Sultan's permission.'
- i Hezарfen speaks to his brother about the Sultan.
- j The district chief tells Hezарfen, 'I'd like to see your brother.'

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick one box to finish each sentence.

- a Hezарfen is ...
 - 1 nervous before he meets the Sultan.
 - 2 afraid when he speaks to the Sultan.
 - 3 happy after he leaves the Sultan.
- b The Sultan ...
 - 1 kills Hezарfen at once.
 - 2 asks Hezарfen for his wings.
 - 3 gives his permission to Hezарfen.
- c One of the Sultan's viziers ...
 - 1 wants to help Hezарfen.
 - 2 doesn't want to give permission to Hezарfen.
 - 3 wants to kill Hezарfen.



Chapter 5 – What does the Sultan say?

So Lagari speaks to the Sultan, and the Sultan says ‘yes’ to a meeting.

Seven days later, Hezarfen goes to the **palace**. He walks past the Hagia Sophia. He is **nervous**. ‘Please give me permission,’ he thinks.

Near the Blue **Mosque**, he is more nervous. ‘Please say “yes”,’ he thinks.

Hezarfen stops near the palace. ‘The Sultan can of course say, “no”. Or, worse – he can say, “Kill that man!”’ he thinks.

‘I’m Hezarfen Ahmet Çelebi. The Sultan wants to see me,’ he tells the palace guard. The man goes in. Hezarfen waits. He is very nervous now.

After an hour, the guard comes back. ‘Come with me,’ he says to Hezarfen.

Hezarfen **bows** very nervously when he meets the Sultan. ‘**Your Highness**, I want to fly across the Bosphorus,’ he says. The Sultan smiles.

‘Ah, yes. You’re Lagari Hasan’s brother,’ he says.

‘Yes, Your Highness,’ Hezarfen answers. Then he asks for the Sultan’s permission.

‘You have it,’ the Sultan says. ‘You must fly across the Bosphorus tomorrow.’

‘With a good wind,’ Hezarfen says. ‘But without it – what then, Your Highness?’

‘You must ask God for a wind,’ the Sultan smiles.

‘Your Highness,’ a **vizier** says quietly. ‘People can walk with their legs. But we don’t have wings. Is a flying man good in God’s eyes?’

palace a big house where a sultan lives

nervous a little afraid

mosque Muslims go here to pray

bow to put your head down when you meet somebody important

Your Highness you say this when you talk to a sultan

wind air that moves

vizier an important man in the Muslim world; he helps a sultan



‘Listen,’ the Sultan answers. ‘We can think of new things with our **brains**. And our brains come from God. The first flying man must be an Ottoman, I say.’

‘Yes, Your Highness,’ the vizier says. But he looks angrily at Hezарfen.

That evening, Hezарfen is not happy.

‘There’s no wind!’ he tells
Mehmet and Ali.

brain this is in
your head and you
think with it



ACTIVITIES

READING CHECK

Are these sentences true or false?

	True	False
a The Sultan says 'yes' to a meeting with Hezарfen.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b Before his meeting with the Sultan, Hezарfen is nervous.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c Hezарfen tells the Sultan, 'I want to fly over the Hagia Sophia.'	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d He asks for the Sultan's permission.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e The Sultan gives his permission to Hezарfen.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f The Sultan tells Hezарfen, 'You must fly next week.'	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g One of the Sultan's viziers is not happy about this.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h 'Is a flying boat good in God's eyes?' he asks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i 'The first flying man must be an Englishman,' says the Sultan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j Hezарfen is very happy that night because there is no wind.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Circle the words to complete the sentences.



- a There is *no* / *lots of* wind the next day.
- b Hezарfen *falls* / *jumps* from the Galata Tower.
- c He *flies across the Bosphorus* / *dies in a Galata street*.
- d The Sultan gives *money* / *a palace* to Hezарfen.
- e Hezарfen *stays in Istanbul* / *leaves for Algeria* in the end.

Chapter 6 – Hezарfen’s reward

The next morning, there is lots of wind. Hezарfen stands happily with his wings at the top of the Galata Tower. Suddenly, he jumps. ‘He’s falling!’ people cry. But he is not falling. He is flying with his big white wings over the houses of Galata.

Hezарfen’s friends Mehmet and Ali run with the people down the streets to the Bosphorus. Hezарfen flies out over the water.

‘I’m flying,’ he cries. ‘People can fly!’ He **lands** across the strait in Üsküdar, a happy man.

land to come down to the ground, or into the sea



The next day, the Sultan has a meeting with his viziers at the palace. 'People can fly,' he cries excitedly. 'And the first flying man is an Ottoman. That's good for our Empire. Hezarfen needs a **reward**.'

'But, Your Highness,' the vizier nearest to him says. 'Flying men can land in our palaces and kill us. They're dangerous.'

The Sultan thinks about this. 'Hmmm. Yes, I see. Perhaps you're right. So what must we do with Hezarfen then?' he asks.

'Kill him,' the vizier answers.

reward a thing that people give or do to somebody after they do something good





exile to make somebody leave their home country or town after they do something that you don't like

gold expensive yellow metal

coin metal money

'I can't do that,' the Sultan cries.

'Then **exile** him,' the vizier says.

So the Sultan calls Hezарfen Ahmet Çelebi to the palace. He gives a reward of a thousand **gold coins** to him. Then he exiles him to Algeria.

Hezарfen says goodbye to his brother and his friends. He leaves Istanbul that evening.

After that, he can fly over the Bosphorus with the birds in his dreams. But he can never go back to Istanbul again.

'And what about Lagari and his rocket?' you ask.

Well, perhaps one day I can tell you that story, too.



ACTIVITIES

READING CHECK

Choose the correct pictures.

a Which building does Hezарfen jump from?



1



2

c Which Istanbul district does Hezарfen land in?



1



2

Galata

Üsküdar

b Where do Mehmet and Ali run?



1



2

to the Bosphorus

to the Blue Mosque

d What does the Sultan want to do to Hezарfen?



1



2

give money to him

kill him

e What does Hezарfen do in the end?



1



2

stays in Istanbul

leaves Istanbul

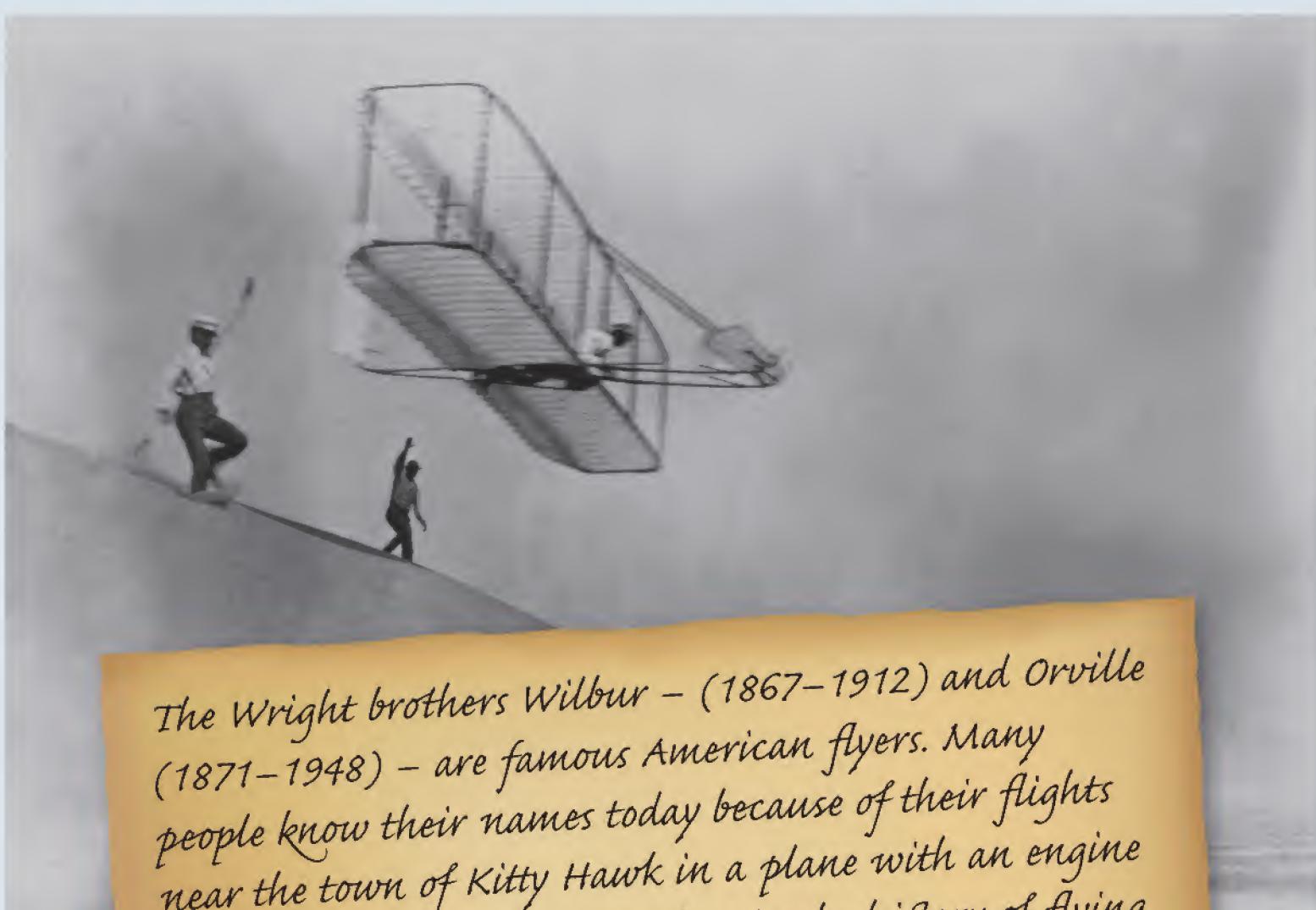
GUESS WHAT

What happens to Lagari Hasan? Tick the boxes and add your own ideas.

- a He never finishes his rocket.
- b He finishes his rocket.
- c He flies up into the sky when the Sultan has his first daughter.
- d He falls from his rocket and dies.
- e He lands in the sea and is OK.
- f The Sultan gives money to him.
- g He goes and lives in Galata in the end.
- h
- i

Project A Famous flyers of the past

1 Read the text about the Wright brothers and complete the table.



The Wright brothers Wilbur – (1867–1912) and Orville (1871–1948) – are famous American flyers. Many people know their names today because of their flights near the town of Kitty Hawk in a plane with an engine on December 17th 1903 – a first in the history of flying. These days you can visit the Wright Brothers National Memorial in North Carolina, USA and see models of their old planes.

Names and dates of flyers	
Nationality	
Famous for which 'flying first'	
Place of this 'flying first'	
Date of this 'flying first'	
Things to do these days connected with the brothers	

PROJECTS

2 Read the notes in the table about the Montgolfier Brothers and complete the text about them.

Names and dates of flyers	Joseph Montgolfier (1740–1810) and Etienne Montgolfier (1745–1799)
Nationality	French
Famous for which 'flying first'	their flight of a hot-air balloon in front of lots of people
Place of this 'flying first'	in the town of Annonay
Date of this 'flying first'	4 June 1783
Things to do these days connected with the brothers	See a model of one of the Montgolfier brothers' balloons at the Science Museum in London

The brothers – (..... –) and (1745–1799) – are famous flyers. Many people know their names today because of their
 – in front of lots of people in
 on – a first in the history of flying. These days you can visit the in and see a of one of their



3 Find out more about a famous flyer and write a short text about him or her.

Ibn Firnas

SABIHA GÖKÇEN

Amelia Earhart

Amy Johnson

Valentina Tereshkova

Yuri Gagarin

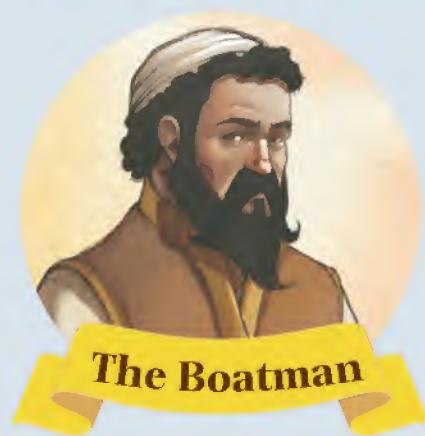
Project B Writing about your dream

1 Read this dream text. Which character in *The First Flying Man* is it about?

I make my money selling things in the street.
 I want to buy a bread shop with this money.
 I want to make the best bread in Istanbul.
 My dream is to be the Sultan's favourite baker.
 My dream is to bake all the bread and cakes in his palace.

2 These two dream texts are mixed together. Letter each line G (Guard) or B (Boatman).

- a I work at the Sultan's palace.
- b I take people across the Bosphorus.
- c I want to sell my old boat and buy a big boat.
- d I want to go away across the sea.
- e I want to do more than stand at the door.
- f I want to stand always near the Sultan.
- g My dream is to visit many far away countries.
- h My dream is to speak quietly in his ear.
- i My dream is to be one of the Sultan's viziers.
- j My dream is to see all of the Ottoman Empire.



PROJECTS



3 Choose a new story character. Write a dream text about them. Your classmates must read it, and guess the character.

I

I want to

I want to

My dream is to

My dream is to

4 What important thing do you want to do in your life? Write a dream text for you. Read it aloud to your classmates.



ACTIVITIES

WORD WORK 1

1 Find words in the feathers to match the pictures.



..... *strait*

.....

.....



.....

.....

.....

2 Complete the sentences with words from Chapters 1 and 2.

- a I like this... *drawing*... by Leonardo. It's a for a bicycle.
- b In the 1630s, the Ottoman is very big.
- c She can't read or write. She isn't very
- d Which of London do you live in?
- e Some birds can run, but they can't
- f Do you often at night?
- g When you a lot, you learn to do things better.
- h Mmm! This apple is very
- i Do you want to walk to the of the hill?
- j Can you from this tree to that tree?
- k Don't play in the street. It's

WORD WORK 2

1 Find nine more words from Chapters 3 and 4 in the letter square.



2 Complete each sentence with one of the words from Activity 1.

- a** 'Where's the *guard*?' 'He's over there, near the door.'
- b** I can't tell the time because my watch is
- c** Please don't get out of the tower window. You can and die easily.
- d** Ask your mother for her before you say 'yes'.
- e** 'Who is the?' the visitor asks some villagers.
- f** When the car hits the tree, there's a big
- g** Which is the fastest bicycle? Let's have a and see.
- h** Murat IV is the in the story.
- i** We can talk about this at the office later.
- j** 'How can we go across the Bosphorus?' 'Let's take a'

ACTIVITIES

WORD WORK 3

1 These words don't match the pictures. Correct them.



a mosque



b gold



c wind



d coin



e brain



f palace

2 Complete the sentences with words from Chapters 5 and 6 in the correct form.

- a Everyone bows in front of the Sultan when they meet him.
- b Monday's my first day at work and I'm upset about it.
- c You must call the Sultan 'your majesty'.
- d When the Sultan's servant speaks, the Sultan listens carefully to him.
- e Her mother gives a reward to her when she helps a lot in the house.
- f His plane arrives at Glasgow airport at ten o'clock tonight.
- g Why does the Sultan send Hezafen from Istanbul?

The First Flying Man

'I want to fly later this year.'

'So it's a race,' laughs Lagari.

'Yes,' smiles Hezарfen.

The time is the 1630s. Sultan Murat IV rules the Ottoman Empire. Two Istanbul brothers – Hezарfen Ahmet Çelebi and Lagari Hasan – dream of flying. Which of them can be the first flying man? And what does the Sultan give to the winner of the race?

Read this story and find the answers.

Illustrated by Gianluca Garofalo and Matteo Vatani

 This book is supported by a MultiROM, containing a complete dramatized audio recording of the story plus interactive activities.

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Word count 1,528

LEVEL	HEADWORDS
Three	1000
Two	700
One	400
Starter & Quick Starter	250

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